

# DC Gazette

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## DO MENTAL PATIENTS HAVE RIGHTS?

## HOPI PREDICTIONS FOR 1978

## CONVERSATIONS WITH A PROSTITUTE

## WHY TUCKER SHOULDN'T BE MAYOR

## THE DEATH OF PAUL JACOBS

*Paul Jacobs went to cover an environmental story.*

*It may have killed him.*



PAUL JACOBS

When correspondents die in a conventional war, the nation's press gives them extensive coverage. But Paul Jacobs was a different kind of war correspondent. He covered the battle of the environment. When he died last month of cancer that may have been linked to his journalistic activities the press hardly noticed. This article, reprinted by permission from *Politicks and Other Human Interests*, was written before his death.

EVE PELL

VETERAN journalist Paul Jacobs, whose investigative reports have long alerted others to the dangers of deadly toxins in the air, may have fallen victim to the very health hazards he has exposed as a public menace.

Jacobs, a San Francisco resident who now corresponds for *Newsday*, was a longtime political activist who has made a career of provoking controversy in six books, several television documentaries and countless newspaper and magazine articles.

One of his major investigations took him to a nuclear weapons testing site in Nevada where he found that nearby residents were in grave danger from cancer. Another took him to Mississippi and Seveso, Italy, where the lethal herbicide TCDD was posing a similar public threat.

Last July, a lymph node removed from Jacobs' neck was found to be malignant. The diagnosis: adenocarcinoma, an uncommon form of lung cancer often associated with airborne radiation — that is nearly always fatal. Jacobs was told his chances of survival were just one in five.

A short, intense man of 59 with a sharp, restless mind and — until recently — a fit athletic body, Paul Jacobs today is thin and pale, his body wasted by the disease and his radiation and chemotherapy treatments. New tumors in his spine and pelvis cause him physical and mental agony.

Two decades ago, in 1957, Jacobs travelled to Nevada and to Utah to investigate charges that the Atomic Energy Commission was then negligently conducting nuclear wea-



pons tests above ground — neither informing the public nor taking precautions to safeguard public health.

Jacobs visited ranches in the area, interviewed families, and saw women whose hair had fallen out, cowboys who had been burned by clouds of radioactive dust and parents of children who had recently died of leukemia.

Jacobs later obtained a secret US health service report documenting all that residents had told him and more. Then, without volunteering that he had the report, he interviewed AEC officials, who denied flatly that their tests posed any hazards whatsoever.

"So I decided that I was going to take a Geiger counter and see for myself what was going on," Jacobs recalls. "I got there right after one of the test series, which were by all odds the worst because the atomic device had been detonated from a tower, which meant that the earth underneath it got pulverized and there was radioactive dust everywhere.

"I went up in the hills in Utah and Nevada where, according to the AEC, the fallout was not too heavy. I remember vividly coming to a couple of places as I was prowling around where the Geiger counter went off the scale because the count was so high, and I had to switch the scales on it. I was probably hitting a hot spot at that time, a place of really high radioactivity in an area of generally low radioactivity.

"One way you get cancer," Jacobs adds, "is by simply breathing in a particle of dust which has been made radioactive by being part of the fallout. It could just be dust lying on the ground: you could walk along and your feet would stir up the dust and you could inhale it."

Even Jacobs himself, who has studied the effects of radiation on the human body, thinks that a radioactive particle may have lodged in his lung and later, in a period when his body's resistance was low, triggered the cancer. The timing between the exposure and the spread of the disease, he says, fits that theory.

Nobel laureate Dr. Linus Pauling, who first tipped Jacobs to the fallout story, is now advising him on how to use vitamin C for treating his cancer. When asked whether Jacobs' disease was caused by those explorations with the Geiger counter, Pauling said he doesn't believe cancer evolves in a single step.

"There are several steps," he explains. "I think it's quite likely that the high-energy radiation Paul got when he was in Utah produced one of the steps. But you can't say with absolute certainty."

One thing, however, is certain: a startling number of people exposed to fallout from the atomic testing in towns like Kanab and St. George, Utah, and Fredonia, Arizona, which Jacobs visited in 1957, are now dead of cancer.

And when a Salt Lake City television producer phoned Jacobs recently for help in researching a program on the long-term effects of AEC testing, Jacobs told the man to talk with the people he had interviewed many years before. "I'm sorry to have to tell you this," said the producer, "but almost all those people are dead."

Jacobs was deeply saddened to

hear of the deaths of such people as Elmer Jackson, the cowboy who suffered burns after being caught in a cloud of fallout in the fifties and whom Jacobs had poignantly described in a 1971 television documentary. And Jacobs was angry that a suit brought by Jackson's family was dismissed as other, similar suits have been.

Though no one can ever say for certain, it is highly probably even as Jacobs interviewed Jackson years ago he harbored the same silent, deadly radiation that most likely led to Jackson's fatal cancer.

"It just never occurred to me that I was putting myself into a position of any kind of danger," he recalls now. "I don't know, I guess I thought I was invulnerable or something — you know, I was Paul Jacobs! Radiation could hurt those other people, but it wasn't going to hurt me."

Investigating the effects of the dioxin TCDD, one of the most deadly substances created by man, might have also contributed to Jacobs' cancer.

A byproduct of the manufacture of the herbicide 2,4,5,T widely used for defoliation in Vietnam as well as domestically, TCDD is so deadly that an amount the size of the period at the end of this sentence can kill 10 people. Vast quantities of TCDD are still stored in the US, and improper disposal of some wastes have killed and injured people and animals.

Investigation of this story led Jacobs into direct contact with TCDD in Gulfport, Mississippi and Seveso, Italy, where a chemical explosion sent deadly TCDD gas into the atmosphere. He went to Gulfport because the Navy stored thousands of gallons of the herbicide called Agent Orange there in deteriorating metal drums.

While visiting the base where the drums were stored, Jacobs noticed that some were leaking. So, after a trip to town and a phone call to a friendly chemist at the Food and Drug Administration for instructions on how to handle the stuff, he returned bringing along a photographer. While the photographer diverted the public relations officer assigned to escort them, Jacobs used a medicine dropper to suck up some Agent Orange that had

leaked around a valve on top of a drum, then squeezed it into a medicine bottle that he sealed and wrapped in aluminum foil.

"I wanted to photograph the bottle and its contents," Jacobs says. "But when I opened it up back at Newsday, I discovered that somehow the eyedropper part had worked itself loose, and it was leaking all over, including on me."

Jacobs quickly washed but he did not know he would have needed to wash an entire half hour before the TCDD was safely off.

Later, when Jacobs went to Seveso, he was probably contaminated twice more. One of those times, he did not know he was running a risk; the other time he did.

"Because the gas turned out to be spread over a far wider area than the government said," he recalls, "the officials allowed me to go into a place from which, just two days later, they banned everyone. I couldn't do anything about that."

But then, wanting to see for himself the effects of the chemical, he drove to a cordoned-off field, climbed through the barbed wire, and looked at the devastated land. "I wanted to see for myself what the damage looked like," he continued. "All the vegetation was dead. It made for a colorful description in my piece."

Because TCDD interferes with normal cell processes, those contacts with it could have contributed to his illness. "These chemicals are known to be carcinogenic," says Dr. Pauling. "It may well be that that was involved as one step in the formation of the first malignant cell."

Whatever triggered his disease, Jacobs has not finished his battles. His next project — a film about the history of the AEC — is already underway; he expects to be filming in Utah as soon as he completes his present series of radiation treatments.

Jacobs will attempt to show that the AEC, now part of the Department of Energy, has lied to the American public over the years and attempted to suppress any serious criticism of its activities — including nuclear testing, which has led to the deaths of both foreigners and Americans.

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# city comment

## Why Tucker shouldn't be mayor

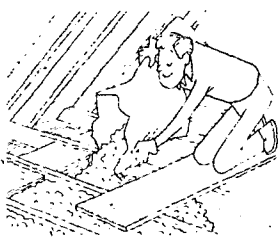
### WHAT'S HAPPENING



The man at the left is smiling perhaps because he earns \$158,667 a year as chairman of the board and president of Pepco. W. Reid Thompson is the nation's tenth highest paid power company executive, which is just one of the things you'll find out about Pepco by reading "Utility Score-Board," a new publication of the Environmental Action Foundation. Pepco, for example, ranks third among the nation's utilities in air pollution violations. Meanwhile, Pepco is asking for another rate increase, folks. You can obtain "Utility Scorecard" by sending \$3.50 (\$15 for profit-making businesses) to the Environmental Action Foundation, 724 Dupont Circle Building, DC 20036.

#### CHECKING OUT THE CONTRACTORS

For exactly the same bathroom remodeling job, a recent set of bids from area plumbing firms ranged from \$836 to \$2,149. That's just one of the tid-bits the Checkbook people came up with preparing their latest publication, "Checkbook: Home Maintenance." It contains the results of a detailed evaluation of some 200 firms in six home maintenance fields. You can obtain a copy of the study by sending \$4.95 to Checkbook, 4th floor, 1518 K St. NW, DC 20005.



The Institute for Local Self Reliance is conducting two solar energy workshops beginning Feb. 17. These are four-week programs consisting of Friday evening discussions and Saturday morning working sessions. Topics include the economics and applications of solar space and hot water heat—and how to build and install a low-cost solar energy system. \$10 tuition for each program. Info: 232-4108.

THOSE WHO HAVE FOLLOWED the Gazette over the years know that we have been a consistent critic of the mayor. In fact, we have zapped his honor with more frequency than any of the media in town.

We note this to preface the following: if the mayor's race were held today and the only candidates were Walter Washington and Sterling Tucker, we would reluctantly, but certainly, vote for Walter Washington.

We consider the Washington administration to have been incompetent at times, unimaginative at others, excessively beholden to big business interests, lazy, confused and burdened with too many top officials more interested in feathering their own nests than in improving the city. We would still vote for Walter.

We say this now because we get the impression that a lot of people are drifting towards Sterling because they believe his image and they can't believe that almost anyone would not be an improvement over Big Wally.

It isn't true.

First, Tucker, as we have noted from time to time, is the candidate most in the grip of the Board of Trade, real estate and financial interests. Walter Washington at his worst drew his support from a variety of constituencies; Tucker is as close as we have come to a one-interest candidate. Further, precisely because the BOT and the real estate boys have set their sights on Tucker, Walter will have to change his politics to win. He has already, in the past few months, subtly shifted his position on a number of issues to one with more appeal to a broader constituency. At the very time that the welfare fathers of big business are tightening their grip on Tucker, Washington is becoming more free.

Second, Tucker's leadership of the city council has been as uninspired as anything we have seen in the executive branch. He has brought forth no significant positive legislation, he has managed to scuttle or weaken many good bills and has spent an inordinate amount of energy

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## TUCKER AND THE LAW

1959: Tucker fined and placed on probation for five years for violation of federal income tax laws.

1966: Lyndon Johnson gives Tucker a Christmas Eve pardon.

1968: Taconic Foundation gives Washington Urban League \$30,000; \$25,000 goes to establish trust fund for Tucker's children.

1975: The lawyer for Philip Brown, West End property owner writes to Board of Elections alleging that the mayor and Tucker were in violation of Section 601(C) of the DC campaign law, which states, "No public official shall . . . receive anything of value, including a political contribution. . . where it could reasonably be inferred that the thing of value would influence the public official in the discharge of his duties. . . or which would cause the total value of such things received from the same person. . . to exceed \$1000." Up before the zoning commission at this time were the West End and Georgetown rezonings. Brown's lawyer cited contributions from real estate and financial interests to back his claim. The board's counsel ruled that since the law permitted \$1000 contributions, the conflict of interest

prohibition was subordinate to it. Washington and Tucker had already voted on the Georgetown case but absented themselves from the West End decision.

1976: Several civic groups attempt to get Tucker to withdraw his development corporation bill on similar grounds to those cited in the case above. The groups cite a Supreme Court decision (*Buckley vs. Valeo*) in which the court stated:

*To the extent that large contributions are given to secure political quid pro quos from current and potential office holders, the integrity of our system of representative democracy is undermined. . . .*

*Of almost equal concern as the danger of actual quid pro quo arrangements is the impact of appearance of corruption. . . .*

The groups cited the example of the law firm of Joseph Dansanky, whose members and family gave \$2200 to the Tucker campaign. Dansanky was a major supporter of the development corporation bill. During Tucker's campaign Giant Foods was pressing for city write-down of land to be sold to Giant at reduced cost to encourage Giant to expand in the inner city. The development corporation bill would have encouraged this sort of activity. At the time he introduced his

bill, Tucker stated that he and others had been engaged in "endless debate behind closed doors" over the issues of the bill. The complainants argued that the Dansanky firm members's contributions could be reasonably be inferred as influencing a public official in the discharge of his duties. The argument was rejected by Tucker and the elections board.

1976: Tucker trust fund revealed in the Washington Star; Post sits on the story. According to Robert Larson, Urban League board president, the trust for Tucker's children "was intended as an expression of appreciation and support for Mr. Tucker's distinctive leadership and personal sacrifice." Both the Urban League and the Taconic Foundation are tax-exempt, non-profit organizations.

1977: Corporation Counsel John Risher goes to court to have Sterling Tucker thrown out of office for having accepted outside employment while serving as chairman. The law prohibits such employment and calls for removal from office of violators. Chief Judge Greene finds Tucker was in violation but says it would not be in the public interest to remove him. Tucker says he is "vindicated."

consolidating the power of the chairman rather than leading the council towards progressive legislation. From the moment he took the job, he was arranging things so he would keep control, deciding upon committee structures that would allow him to butt into any committee's work, moving matters he wanted to watch to his committee of the whole, playing the numerous little petty games politicians play to garner more power for themselves. His major chef-d'oeuvre on the council has been a bill that would have set up an urban development corporation of excessive power virtually making developer interests an explicit fourth branch of government. He also devoted some effort to the act creating the neighborhood commissions and the main effect of his energies was to

make the commissions weaker. But most of the time, he was attending to those smaller matters that affect power: making sure he controlled staff, agendas, and legislative flow, or making sure that someone like Hilda Mason didn't become chair of the education committee.

Third, Tucker has enough of a record of voting against progressive legislation to indicate that he would be no more inclined towards it than is the incumbent.

Fourth, Tucker has failed to provide assistance to neighborhoods in their various fights. He has been AWOL from many of the most important battles of the city. Recently, he decided it was time to go out and meet the voters and so has been to quiet little meetings around the city to prove that he is not merely a figment of the Washington Post's imagination. Tucker's lack of contact with the citizenry is showing: in one ward, a strongly anti-Tucker pol was invited to a Tucker meeting, then pressured into giving names of others who might come. Wanting to rid himself of the insistent Tuckerite, the pol gave the names of a score of people he knew disliked Tucker. The joke backfired; to his chagrin he received a flyer in the mail that listed himself as one of Tucker's precinct workers.

Fifth, Tucker has been just as bad as the mayor in failing to represent the city's interests before Metro.

Sixth, Tucker's staff, with a few exceptions, gives little indication of the sort of imagination and competence one would expect from those closest to a future mayor. As another council staffer put it, "They have no commitment to anything." On the council, Tucker's closest allies are William Spaulding and Jerry Moore. Again, hardly encouraging.

Walter Washington has been repeatedly faulted for his staff, but if you look close enough you can find some motion in the right direction. The leadership of the police, human resources, transportation and environmental services departments have all improved at least somewhat in recent years and even Ben Gilbert seems to have learned something.

Seventh, Tucker's activities have raised from time to time questions of legality and/or propriety. While this is true of many politicians, including W<sup>2</sup>, in Tucker's case there seems to be an if-I-can-get-away-with-it-it's right attitude. Tucker doesn't seem to understand that the limits of probity are not defined by the law alone.

Finally, Tucker lacks what is Walter Washington's saving grace: Walter Washington actually believes in something. When you argue with Washington, you often get heat and passion because it's not all a game with him. He may be dead wrong, but he truly believes he is right and fights like someone who does. There are depressing failings in his programs, philosophies and friends, but even such constant critics as ourselves have to admit, and on occasion admire, his skill at overcoming these considerable handicaps with a personality that is well-integrated, decent, human, and without guile. Walter Washington may not be such a hot mayor, but he'd make a fine grandfather for your kids, an Eisenhower kind of politician who drives you up the wall, but whom you never can bring yourself to dislike. Since it is unlikely that either Tucker or Washington would turn into truly progressive mayors, this symbolic matter should not be underrated. Walter Washington really thinks he has the best interests of the city at heart; what Tucker really thinks is anybody's guess.

We believe there are better choices available than either candidate. More about that later. But we just wanted to say that there was more to this Tucker-Washington business than Tweedle-Dum and Tweedle-Dee.

True, either way the city would lose out on what it could be, but at least with Walter we could stand it, indeed enjoy it from time to time. Any mayor who's only been caught once using his siren to get home from a football game can't be all bad. Besides, do you really want the soporific Sterling deadening the TV news for the next four years? If we can't have the rest, let's at least keep the style.

## DC GAZETTE

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# APPLE PIE

## *An American Report*

## NOTES FROM THE REAL WORLD

DODD MEAD has just published a book called "Doctor Bey's Suicide Guidebook," complete with pros and cons of various methods and tips for note-writers. It's just like journalism — no cliches and keep it short.

ABRAHAM SHIEPE in Los Angeles will rent you a tank for \$25 an hour or \$160 a day. Has color TV and driver, but you pay for the gas. A tank gets about three miles to the gallon.

THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT agency is considering the use of blimps to watch for drug smuggling along the coast.

THE MANUFACTURERS of Babarum have reduced the alcohol content of their rum cakes from 6% to 2% to comply with a new California law. Coast children have apparently been mainlining Babarums; one 15 year-old told a Long Beach juvenile court that he lost control after downing 17 of the things.

WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY reported to you the efforts of the Mafia to take

over the pizza industry by controlling the manufacture and sale of mozzarella cheese. Now the Wall St. Journal reports that internal feuding has resulted in several dozen fire-bombings, torch jobs and gas explosions at pizza parlors in New York and adjoining states. The Mafia, according to the Journal, now tells hundreds of parlors what kind of kitchen equipment they must buy and which illegal aliens they must hire.

TWO EUROPEAN FIRMS report they are perfecting small computers for cars that could make major traffic snarls a thing of the past. Volkswagen and the Blaupunkt Company both say they are close to developing dashboard devices about the size of hand-held calculators that would receive signals from automatic traffic sensors along the roadway.

Motorists would simply punch in their destinations, and a message would appear on a console mapping the least-congested roads to take. Five years is estimated development time.

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## HEALTH NOTES

SYPHILIS  
DOWN;  
GONORRHEA  
UP

THE National Center for Disease Control in Atlanta reports that for the first time since 1969, syphilis cases have declined in the US. Down 12% from the previous year. On the other hand, the new super-gonorrhea, which is resistant to penicillin, has spread to 26 states and 19 countries.

POT AND  
ULCERS

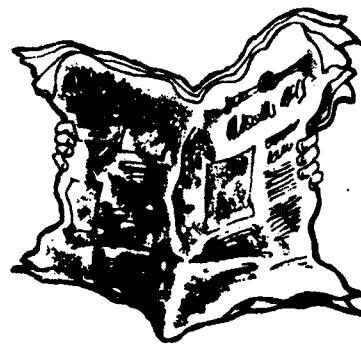
Doctor David Nalin of Maryland reports that heavy pot smokers he examined had low levels of gastric acidity. He suggests the rise in pot smoking may explain the decline in ulcers nationally.

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# ECOCLIPS

**DEATH ON THE DESERT** While Paul Jacobs was a poignant victim of nuclear development, he was not alone. A January 17 story by Washington Post reporter Walter Pincus recounts that six GIs involved in maneuvers following an atomic blast in Nevada during the fifties have developed leukemia. The national Center of Disease Control is now trying to find 2200 other GIs who participated in the test, to see what effects the blast had on them.

**MILLSTONE CANCER** Pittsburgh medical researcher Ernest Sternglass reports that cancer rates went up 58% in the Waterford, Conn., area during the years 1970-1975. Waterford is the site of the Millstone nuclear power plant, which had an explosion in December. In New London, five miles downwind, cancer rates went up 44%. During the same period the average cancer increase for all of New England was only six to eight percent.



**REDDY OR NOT** First, they went after Environmental Action for running satirical versions of Reddy Kilowatt in their publications. Now utility activist Mary Hardee has been arrested in South Carolina for wearing a Reddy costume during a demonstration. The police used

an old anti-KKK law, that prohibits people over 16 from wearing masks in public.

**THE COST OF COAL** The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health estimates that with increased use of coal for fuel, there would be about six thousand more disabling injuries a year within a decade.

**NOW WORRY ABOUT KRYPTON 85** Krypton 85 is a low level radioactive gas released in controlled quantities from nuclear power plants. In the Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society, three scientists speculate that Krypton 85 coming from proposed or existing nuclear plants could reduce the electrical resistance between the oceans and the ionosphere by 15% within 50 years. That means major changes in the world climate.

**HONEYBEE IN DANGER** According to Harvey Caine, a researcher at the University of California at Santa Cruz, about one-third of the American diet depends "directly or indirectly on honeybee-pollinated

## THE OTHER GOVERNMENT

### RUBY AND THE MAFIA

New Times magazine reports that in the two months prior to the assassination of President Kennedy, Jack Ruby held at least two secret meetings in Miami with Mafia hitman Johnny Roselli. The magazine says that federal investigators in Florida have identified the two hotel rooms where the meetings allegedly took place.

Roselli was one of a number of underworld figures commissioned by the CIA in the early 1960s in unsuccessful plots to assassinate Fidel Castro. Roselli's mutilated body was found floating in Miami's Dumbofounding Bay in June 1976, two months after he testified before a Senate subcommittee looking into the JFK assassination.

New Times says that not only can Rudy be linked to Roselli, but that the killer of Lee Harvey Oswald can also be closely tied to other mob leaders including Santos Trafficante, Sam Giancana, and Norman "Roughhouse" Rothman. Giancana was shot to death three years ago, just one week before he was scheduled to testify before a Senate subcommittee, and Trafficante later took the Fifth when asked about the Kennedy assassination.

Columnist Jack Anderson has previously reported that Roselli and Ruby were acquaintances. Anderson once quoted Roselli as calling Ruby, "one of our boys." Anderson added: "When Oswald was picked up, Roselli suggested, underworld conspirators feared he would crack and disclose information that might lead to them. This almost certainly would have brought a massive US crackdown on the Mafia, so Jack Ruby was ordered to eliminate Oswald. . . ."

### COLBY BACKTRACKS ON THE "COUNTERSPY" TALE

Former CIA director William Colby has substantially modified the official explanation for the assassination in Greece of CIA station chief Richard Welch. Welch was gunned down in Athens in 1975 by unknown attackers. Colby and other CIA leaders immediately blamed American CIA critics for Welch's death.

Within hours of the shooting, Colby placed phone calls to several American newspapers, and was widely quoted as blaming Counterspy Magazine for the Welch murder. Counterspy had printed Welch's name

among dozens of "known" CIA agents operating abroad.

At the time of the murder, Colby charged that Counterspy's identification of Welch as a CIA agent was one factor leading directly to Welch's death.

Testifying before a Senate subcommittee recently, however, Colby changed his tune. Under questioning by chairman Les Aspin, Colby admitted that there were at least three other factors behind Welch's death, including bad cover supplied by the agency and anti-CIA feelings in Greece. Aspin stated that Welch's CIA ties were publicly known long before the Counterspy article appeared. Said Congressman Aspin: "There is no doubt in my mind that the CIA did a real number on American opinion on the murder of Richard Welch."

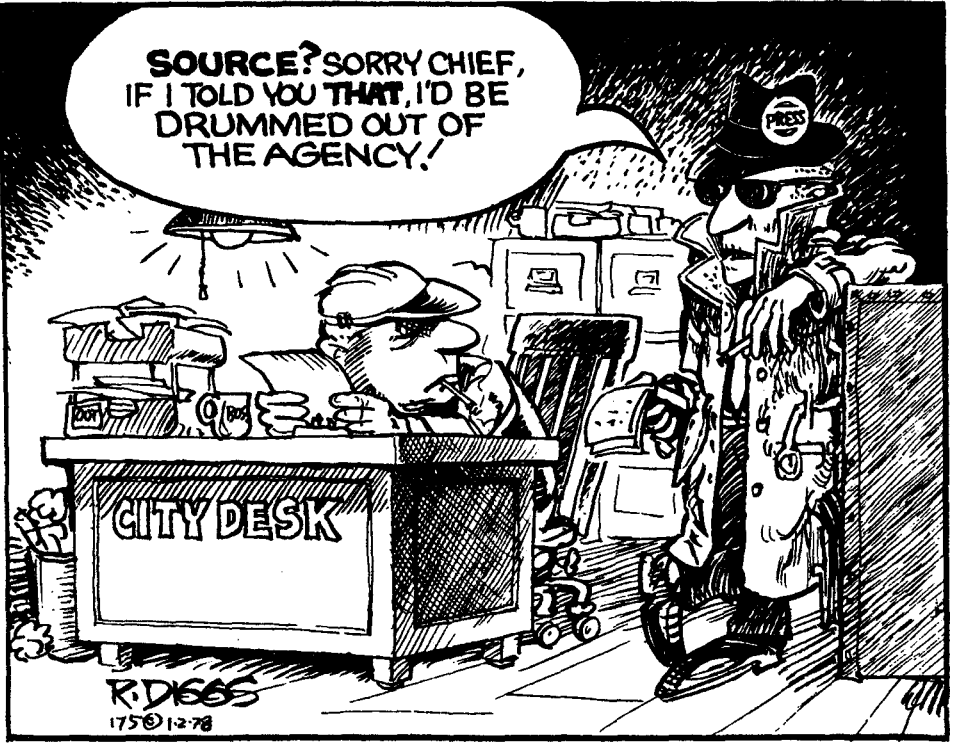
### DOUBLE BOOKKEEPING AT LANGLEY

A former domestic CIA officer claims that the agency keeps potentially troublesome agents in line by by maintaining two sets of personnel files on employees who they suspect might later become critics of the agency.

Donald Jordan, a 26-year veteran of the CIA, who was dismissed last fall, told the Los Angeles Times that "super grades" or high-level agency executives maintain control over lower-ranking agents by setting up a second set of secret personnel files. The second set sometimes contains fabricated information on the employee in question. He alleges that these "funny files" can be substituted for the real ones if the CIA finds itself later faced with a critic from within.

### MORE ON OSWALD

A newly-released government document reveals that ten years ago the CIA instructed selected chiefs of station around the world to launch a massive public relations campaign to convince people that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone. The dispatch sent by the CIA says that theories of a conspiracy in the JFK killing should be blamed on "Communist propagandists." It suggested that one of the most successful ways to counter the critics is for CIA agents to write critical book reviews of books by assassination critics and make these available to the foreign news media.



where Popeye and Olive were 'sweet-hearts," Feiffer says, the two will be "lovers" in the movie version. Feiffer says that the film will be "an odyssey of two people going through a relationship" and that the only message of the film is that "spinach is underrated."

A group called the Pacific Alliance, which has organized anti-nuclear rock stars reports it is organizing sports stars as well. It says it is launching a committee, "Athletes on Energy and Environment," whose initial members will include Bill Walton and Reggie Jackson.

GEORGE LUKAS OF "STAR WARS" fame and Steven Spielberg, the director of "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," are planning to collaborate on the ultimate science fiction movie.

The two have agreed to co-write a futuristic screenplay which Lukas would then produce and Spielberg direct. Because of their current obligations, however, the two aren't scheduled to do their thing together until 1979.

BONNIE RAITT is the latest in a growing list of rock performers to use her concert appearances to speak out against nuclear power.

For example, at a recent concert in Virginia, she told the crowd she hoped that "you're as much against nuclear power as I am."

Other performers holding similar views include the Eagles, Linda Ronstadt, Jesse Colin Young, Lily Tomlin, America, David Bromberg and John Denver.

A NEW YORK JURY has ruled that films concerning bestiality were too "disgusting and repulsive" to be sexually arousing to the average viewer. The distributor was acquitted.

FROM ROTTEN of the Sex Pistols, about having things thrown at him from the audience: "It's a lot better than going outside and working off the hostility in a more destructive way - like killing someone."

crops. The problem is that honeybees are being reduced by pesticides at the rate of about 2% a year, which means large scale pollination shortages within the next ten to fifteen years.

LOOT TO The Wall Street Journal  
POLLUTE reports that national environmental officials are seriously considering a proposal that would establish quotas for cer-

tain poisonous chemicals. Then the Environmental Protection Agency(sic) would hold a public auction at which private polluters would bid for the right to spew the stuff into the atmosphere.

SEABROOK THE US Nuclear Regulatory  
ALLOWED Commission has given the go ahead to the Public Service Company of New Hampshire for a nuclear plant at Seabrook, site of the Clamshell Alliance demonstrations. June 24th, incidentally, is the date of the next major demonstrations planned there.

# SHOW BUSINESS

WRITER AND CARTOONIST Jules Feiffer reports that his next film project will be based on the exploits of the cartoon character Popeye.

Feiffer says that the movie "Popeye" will feature Dustin Hoffman in the role of the two-fisted spinach-eating sailor, and Lily Tomlin as Olive Oyl.

Unlike the original comic strip,

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# THE CONSTITUTION IN THE MENTAL WARD

SUSAN ABRAMS

DO MENTAL PATIENTS CHECK THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL rights at the hospital door? Do people whose ability to reason is doubted still have the right to refuse treatment when no emergency exists? Should psychiatrists be the sole arbiters of what is in a patient's "best interest," or do patients themselves have a stake in determining that? Simply put, does the law outside a mental hospital apply inside as well?

These are among key questions being raised in a landmark civil rights trial now underway in US District Court in Boston. The case, known as *Rogers v. Okin*, began December 8 and is expected to last through February. A non-jury trial, it is presided over by federal judge Joseph Tauro.

*Rogers v. Okin* is the nation's first class action suit on the right of mental patients to refuse treatment — now the cornerstone of a nationwide movement on mental patients' rights. Brought by seven present and former patients at Boston State Hospital (Rubie Rogers is a patient, Robert Okin is the state commissioner of Mental Health), the suit charges 15 doctors with having forcibly medicated or secluded patients in non-emergencies during 1974 and part of 1975, violating both state law and their constitutional rights.

Describing such practices as "assault and battery" and "false imprisonment," the plaintiffs seek damages of \$1.2 million and the permanent extension of an injunction (in effect since 1975) prohibiting such practices.

While state laws vary on the rights of mental patients, *Rogers v. Okin* should set important precedents for defining the constitutional rights of mental patients nationally. If, for example, the outcome affirms the right of mental patients to refuse treatment, it would radically alter the traditional relationship between doctor and patient in which patients have little or no legally recognized role in determining treatment.

Richard Cole, Robert Burdick and Clyde Bergstresser, attorneys for the plaintiffs, plan to introduce many issues of broad applicability, some of them quite new. Among them are:

- Does the use of mind-altering drugs violate the First Amendment by interfering with the right to formulate as well as express ideas? Does it violate the right to privacy?
- Is involuntary treatment not only possibly unconstitutional but anti-therapeutic as well? Does it work against the feelings of independence and self-respect that treatment should foster as preparation for patients returning to the community.
- Is assaultive behavior, for which patients are restrained, sometimes caused by the hospital atmosphere? Is hospitalization making the patients sicker?
- What is the psychological effect

on patients of forcing unwanted chemicals into their bodies?

- Does the right to treatment preclude the right to refuse treatment, or are the two rights compatible.

The seclusion rooms where the plaintiffs charge they were kept in non-emergencies stand six-by-twelve feet, are locked and feature a mesh-covered window with a bare lightbulb left on continually. They contain only a plastic-covered mattress on the floor, no toilet, and are described as stinking of urine and feces. The scantily clad or nude patients are allowed no contact with other patients, no reading or other materials, no exercise.

The medications at issue are powerful anti-psychotic drugs that constitute the major treatment at many mental hospitals nationwide. While advocates point to their effectiveness in "reducing anxiety" and "re-establishing organized thought processes," opponents note the many possible side effects, including blurred vision, jerking of the limbs, inability to concentrate, drowsiness and difficulty in swallowing. Some, as in the condition tardive dyskinesia — a disease of the nervous system that damages the brain — may be irreversible.

In his opening statement to the court, Assistant Attorney General Stephen Schultz (who heads the defense team) denied that any of the doctors had either medicated or secluded patients against their will except in emergencies. He cited numerous violent incidents on the part of the plaintiffs, ranging from setting themselves on fire to holding a knife to the throats of other patients.

Under the circumstances, he said, actions (like shouting) that might seem quite harmless in themselves were, in fact, a sign that a patient was going out of control. Staff had to intervene quickly. Schultz expanded the definition of psychiatric emergencies (a key issue) by noting that they "can be continuous."

Citing the inadequate staffing and resources on the wards (a matter over which the defendants had no control), Schultz asked the court to keep in mind that alternatives to medication and seclusion were not always available.

Working "under very trying conditions," handling patients who were "the most acutely psychotic in the Massachusetts mental hospital system," the doctors, according to Schultz, not only managed to cope but did, in fact, help many of the plaintiffs to improve.

In Boston, where one institutionalized mental patient killed a doctor in 1973 and where busing tensions led to an increase in admissions, Schultz suggested that the doctors "should be commended" rather than criticized.

The defense has also taken the position that many involuntary patients "cannot acknowledge their need for treatment, and frequently desire subconsciously the very medication and treatment they outwardly reject." They conclude that no constitutional right exists to refuse medication in a state mental hospital.

Schultz and his colleagues are expected to emphasize what they allege have been the disastrous effects on patients of the current ban on non-emergency forcible treatment: those who refuse are denied treatment they need and other patients are in danger from them; physicians are unable to carry out their "legal obligations to treat;" staff is demoralized and tension runs high.

In a friend-of-the-court brief, Harvard Law School professor Alan A. Stone contended that drug treatments had vastly improved conditions in the nation's mental hospitals and that legal activists supporting the rights of mental patients to refuse treatment "have raised all sorts of complicated legal questions" that have helped lead to "payoffs and terror" at Boston State Hospital.

But Robert Plotkin, attorney for the Mental Health Law Project in Washington, which is assisting the plaintiffs, contends that "We are not talking about totally eliminating drugs in mental health treatment; we are talking about controlling a long list of well documented abuses against mental patients. Treating patients like human beings will not interfere with mental health treatment, it would enhance it."

Early testimony has focused on Donna Hunt, who spent more than 2,000 hours in seclusion during a 16-month period. Her attorneys charge she was frequently medicated against her will as "punishment for 'undesirable behavior or speech' and as part of a behavior modification treatment plan."

Mildly retarded, the 16-year-old patient, although never diagnosed as "psychotic," was placed on an adult psychotic ward where staff lacked training in the treatment of the retarded.

A key witness has been Dr. John Szyk, a second-year resident psychiatrist directly responsible for Hunt's treatment. Under examination by her attorneys he conceded that:

- He had no training in the use of seclusion or anti-psychotic drugs on the retarded. Yet he had never sought consultation with experts, including one available within the same hospital.
- He had never read Hunt's entire record, including reports by his immediate predecessor that she showed symptoms of Tardive dyskinesia from the drug Mellaril. Szyk continued the dosages.

Dr. Szyk defended his competence, nevertheless, "to formulate a treatment program" for a retarded adolescent. He stated that he "could not have conceived of a better treatment program" for Hunt even if more resources had been available.

State law authorizes seclusion only where there is "the occurrence of or serious threat of extreme violence, personal injury, or attempted suicide."

Hunt was often secluded for refusing to stay in her room, swallowing flip tops from soda cans or scratching her arms with them. While Szyk asserted such actions indicated Hunt was either out of control or suicidal, the other early witnesses called (aides or psychologists sympathetic to the plaintiffs) contended that Hunt's bizarre actions grew out of her desperate need for attention and personal support.

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DC AREA FEMINIST ALLIANCE meets Feb 13 7-10pm & all day Mar 12 at the Women's Center, 17th & M NW. Childcare, needs of mothers, other topics. Info: Alexa Freeman (332-6497) or Mary Spottswood Pou (457-8412). . . SPAGHETTI DINNER & panel discussion on "Violence Against Women: What Strategies Should We Use?" Feb 10, All Souls. Call Emmy Hixson (547-0138 or 779-7098) or Alexa Freeman (332-6497) for info.

Susan Abrams has covered mental health issues for a variety of publications including the *Boston Phoenix*.



# dc eye

YOU may recall that a major justification for the May Day Offensive of a few years back was to defend that local amendment to the Constitution that guarantees commuters the unalienable right of unimpeded access to the city. The anti-war demonstrators had planned to block the streets and the government was just as determined to prove that while we couldn't get out of Vietnam, one could still get into Washington. To keep the traffic moving some 12,000 persons were illegally arrested and treated rottenly by their captors.

But times have changed, as was illustrated last month by the arrival of all those farmers. While one policeman did feel compelled to shoot out the tires of a hit-and-run tractor the police remained for the most part remarkably sanguine about such things as a row of trailer trucks blocking the 14th Street bridge or the seizure of the Agriculture Secretary's office. As the Star noted, a "feature that distinguished the farmers' demonstration from those of the 1960s and early 1970s was the easygoing attitude of the Metropolitan Police. The tractors that blocked Independence Avenue weren't even ticketed for their obvious violation."

While the Post predictably called the road-blocking "intolerable," the police found they could get used to it.

The cheerful interpretation of this is that the cops have gotten smarter. Certainly Chief Jefferson is a more rational person than Jerry Wilson, Richard Nixon's minister of internal security here during the anti-war days. But there may be more to it than that. Farmers are of a different class than the anti-war youth. Ever since we first implored to eat green, leafy vegetables daily, all of us, even in the city, knew that behind our well-being stood a farmer. Tear-gassing a farmer would be very close to clubbing a priest.

Besides, there was the real potential that the farmers might get nasty. Anti-war demonstrators threw some rocks, but they didn't drive around with rifles hung in the rear window of their pickups.

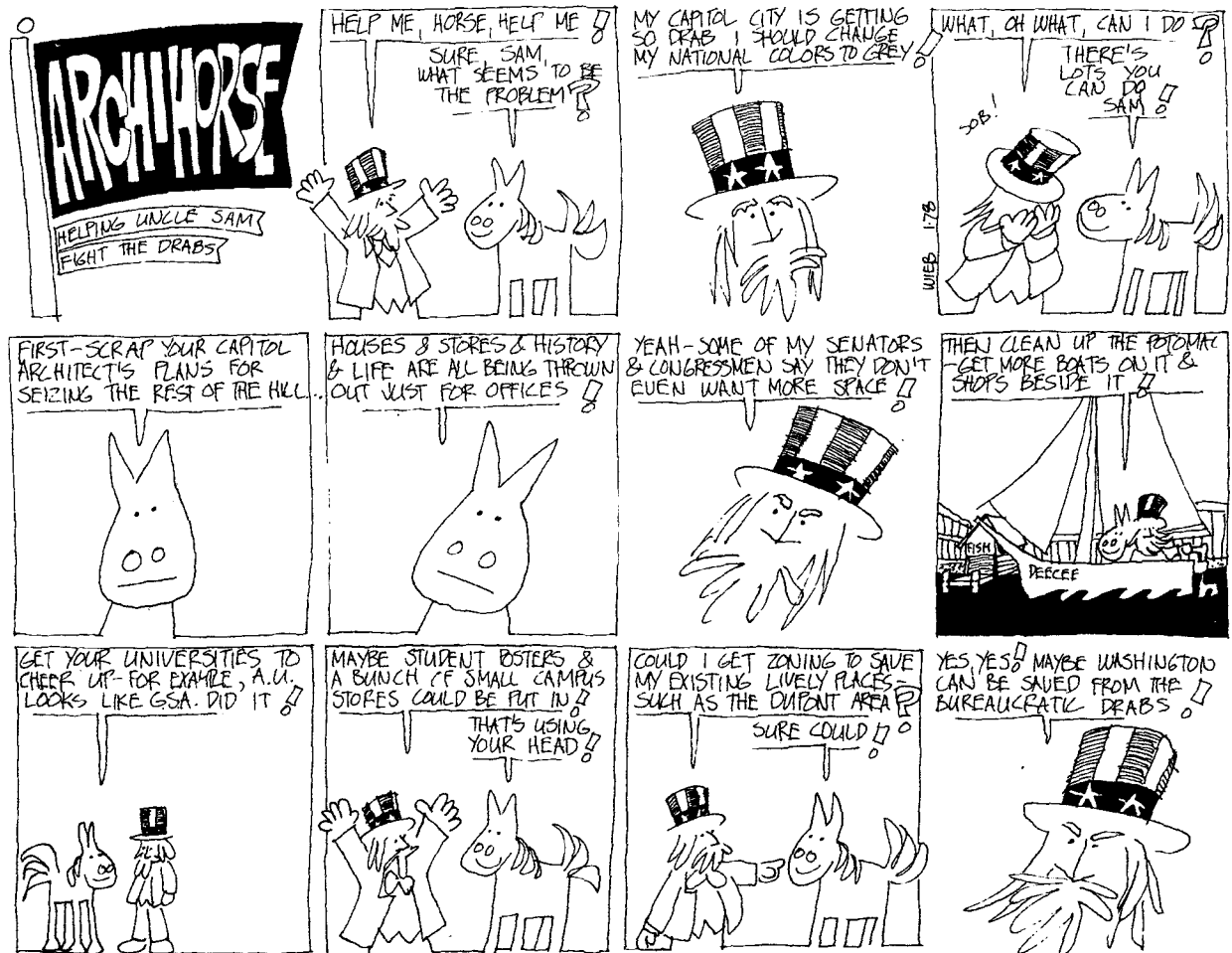
There is a real possibility that the police acted with restraint out of a mixture of respect and fear, feelings they seldom displayed towards their more youthful antagonists.

It is unclear at this writing whether the new policy of appeasement will work. By the time you read this the farmers may have gone home or they may have used their pitchforks to give some of our constabulary honest reasons for disability retirement, leading the cops to reassess their idealistic view of the American agriculturist. In any event, the initial police response deserves praise. It's just too bad it wasn't tried a few years back.

THE SPECULATION TAX, which was first proposed on these pages back in the early seventies has been finally released from Marion Barry's Finance and Revenue Committee where it has been serving an indeterminate sentence for the past three years. It was voted out just a couple of days before Marion announced he was running for mayor. So we shouldn't give up on democracy just yet.

ONE WOULD BE INCLINED TO propose a toast to the end of Downtown Progress, one of the major advocates of downtown planning mayhem but the cause for joy is somewhat limited by the fact that DP's old director, Knox Banner, has found a new job — as the mayor's business and economic development chief.

A GAZETTE GARLAND TO Patrick Leahy for his fight against the convention cen-



ter. The senator told a group of local business types and pols last month that "the convention center is, for all practical purposes, dead." He suggested that the city government get back to business. Which is all very well and good, but the senator should realize the vacuum he has created; for the first time in years the business community does not have one new multi-million dollar scheme which is going to save the city. Let them down easy, Pat.

ONE OF THE CHIEF ARGUMENTS for a convention center was the growth in hotel space it would allegedly create. As we have pointed out from time to time, it would, however, be difficult to determine which hotels were built because of a center and which for other reasons. For example, Nord Schwiebert, managing director of the Sheraton-Park, says "regardless of what happens to the convention center, you're going to have about 3000 new hotel rooms here" probably in the next five or six years. "There is a pent-up demand for new hotel construction in this town," he added in an interesting Dec. 12 interview in the Star, which was conveniently buried on the business pages.

The Sheraton-Park is rebuilding and will, upon remodeling, be able to attract all but 60 of the top 185 convention groups that presently don't meet here. It bucked its fellow members of the Washington Hotel Association by refusing to go along with a hotel room tax to underwrite the convention center. Schwiebert declines to describe himself as anti-convention center, but clearly the Sheraton-Park has shown, by planning a facility two-thirds the size of the Mt. Vernon Monster all by itself, that private industry can do a great deal more than the Board of Trade has been willing to concede.

THE WASHINGTON INFORMER took a poll of 500 readers and found that 38% favored Marion Barry. . . .for delegate. . . .CONRAD SMITH, new president of the school board, says the board will move decisively to close schools because of falling enrollments. Fasten your seat belts. . . .SMITH beat Barbara Simmons for the post, gaining support from Alaire Rieffel, Carol

Schwartz, Victoria Street, Minnie Woodson, and Betty Ann Kane. . . .CAROL SCHWARTZ was re-elected vice president over John Warren, who is planning to seek Nadine Winter's place on the city council.

ALSO RUNNING IN WARD SIX, is Rev. David Hall, a Baptist minister who used to live in Ward Four, where he ran against Hilda Mason in 1975. He thinks Nadine has been soft on rent control, is opposed to a convention center, supports Doug Moore for chairman and hasn't decided who he'll support for mayor, except it won't be Tucker. . . .BETTY ANN KANE is warming up for her run for an at-large seat on the council.

THE STAR made a nice try with its omni-part series on the best and worst of DC judges, but it was hardly the "objective rating" the Star claimed it was.

One piece singled out Judge David Norman as being "unusually lenient" and says Norman "admits he may be more liberal than his colleagues." We suspect he merely stated it, but in the Star's view one "admits" to liberalism. Norman said he wonders about the "deterrent effect of jail" in many cases, as well he might, but probably shouldn't, at least in front of a Star reporter.

Perhaps the most peculiar objective standard used by the Star was the number of times a judge's decision was reversed by the DC Court of Appeals. Norman was scored for his reversal rate, while in the case of Judge Braman it was seen as a sign of "legal courage."

MEMO TO THEODORE LUTZ: You need to change your farecard machine ribbons.

PARTISAN ARTISAN: New gallery featuring political posters opened by Arlene Singer and Joel Joseph at 1334 Wisc. NW. Hrs: Th, Fr 630-930pm. Sat-Sun 11am-6pm.



IN the first test case involving the powers of the neighborhood commissions, the DC Court of Appeals has sent a liquor license application back for rehearing because, among other things, the ABC Board did not give "great weight" to the advice of the affected ANC's. The court ruled that the law requiring that the opinions of ANC's be given great weight meant that a city agency must answer the objections of the ANC point by point. The decision also requires that proper 30 days notice be given neighborhood commission of pending actions that require public hearings and that while ANC's may not sue the government, commissioners and citizens may sue on behalf of ANC's.

The case was argued by Sari Marmur of GU's community law project, which has been providing extensive assistance to the commissions on legal matters in the absence of any help from the corporation counsel's office, which tends to regard its function as defending other city governmental bodies against the ANC's even though they, too, are part of the DC government.

In a memo to neighborhood commissioners, community project lawyers Marmur and Robert Stumberg outlined the significance of the case:

- "It is reversible error if an agency fails to give 'great weight' to the issues and concerns raised by an ANC recommendation. The agency must explicitly refer to each ANC issue and concern and explain why the ANC does or does not offer persuasive advice under the circumstances.

- "Neighborhood residents (including Commissioners as individuals) may ask the DC Court of Appeals to overturn a District agency decision on the grounds that their rights to citizen participation have been injured if the ANC's rights . . . are violated. The ANC itself, however, is prohibited . . . from directly initiating a petition for review of an agency decision.

- "It is a reversible error for agencies to fail to give ANC's 30 days written notice by mail of proposed actions of significance to neighborhood planning and development. This includes not only rulemaking and legislation, but individual cases where a hearing is required.

- "The fact that the decision was written in articulate and explicit terms means that it provides useful guidelines for improved implementation of the ANC statute, particularly with regard to the requirements of notice and great weight.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

- You can order a DIRECTORY OF PRESERVATION ORGANIZATIONS from Architour, Inc., 1735 NY Ave., DC 20006.

- THE CAPITOL HILL DAY SCHOOL is now accepting applications for next year. Call 547-2244.

- Details of the precedent-setting agreement worked out between the Adams Morgan community and Perpetual can be obtained from the Adams Morgan Organization, 2311 18th St. NW, DC 20009. (332-2628)

- The City Council is considering a bill that would extend the time you can legally park in DC from 24 to 72 hours. Right now your car is illegal if it's been parked in one place for 24 hours. You can obtain a copy of Bill 2-223 from Councilmember Jerry Moore.

- The Center for Science in the Public Interest has some office space for rent (1400 square feet) that includes free parking and utilities. Located at 1755 S St. NW the price is \$725 a month. Call 332-9110.

- The WASHINGTON AREA GROUP FOR THE HARD OF HEARING meets Feb. 23, Mar. 23, Apr 27, May 25 and Jun 22 at 730 pm at the Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road. Info: 942-7612 or 966-6190.

- The DC chapter of the Red Cross offers COURSES IN HEALTH-RELATED SUBJECTS. Info: Nursing and Health Programs, 857-3622.

- THE MAGIC LANTERN BASEMENT CINEMA will feature two new films by Saul Landau, "The Sine Flu Caper" and "The CIA Case Officer" on Feb. 24 in the basement of the Sumner School, 17th and M St. NW. Admission is \$1.50. Time: 8 pm and 930 pm. To get on the mailing list for this group that shows politically-oriented films, contact Pat Dowell, 2400 Burke Ave., Alexandria, Va. 22301 (548-0766).

## SWAMPOODLE'S REPORT

HI THERE, boys and girls, it's time for another roundup of tips and items from around the town where anyone can grow up to be mayor. And probably will.

Right now the candidates are having a hard time finding the voters. Most of the polls show up to forty percent of the citizens "undecided." My own random sample indicates that they're not undecided at all. They just don't like any of the choices. In fact, the only way Marion, Sterling and Wally could win a majority right now would be to form a junta. It's not a bad idea; sort of like the old three commissioner system. It has the added advantage of corresponding with Walter Fauntroy's view of democracy, which is that you should have only one slate running in an election or you'll fragment and divide the vote. But the press will probably keep referring to these three minor candidates as the "leaders" and to the disenchanted as "undecided" and by election time we'll all believe it.

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AT CARL BERGMAN'S suggestion, I'm announcing a contest for the best new city motto. The Gazette has graciously consented to give a year's free subscription to anyone who comes up with an idea good enough to print—like Carl's own entry: "Nothing Ventured."

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SPEAKING OF SLOGANS, I've become an aficionado of the new fad of wearable double-entendres. Last month the Gazette noted the availability of a T-shirt that reads, "Preservationists Keep It Up Longer." Others in this same genre include: "Stage Hands Do It On Cue," "Skin Divers Do It Deeper," "Marathoners Do It Longer," "Do It With an Architect," "Broadcasters Do It Orally," and, from a reporter's group interested in freedom of information, "Do It In the Open."

\*\*\*

SINCE THERE'S SO MUCH concern about ethics these days, I thought you might like to see the code of the National Capital Recreational Vehicle Dealers

Association: "As an assurance to the public of fair treatment, trustworthy advertising, fair sales practices, dependable service and lasting good faith, we agree to pursue with professional zeal, the continued education, dissemination of information and advancement of the recreational vehicle industry." What more could you want?

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THE SPLIT BETWEEN E.B. Williams and George Allen is surely the most tear-provoking affair since Sonny and Cher broke up. The main problem over the short haul is that the press insists on giving us both sides of the story which means we have to read twice as much about people we'd just as soon not read about at all. But this too will pass, except, of course, for the year-end sports reviews. For my part, I'll say nothing more except pass on to you the news from Sports Illustrated: a transcript from Michigan Normal College lists Allen as four years older than the Redskins front office said he was. In fact, the Redskins flacks never mentioned that Allen ever went to good old Mich Norm. Adds SI: "A classmate recalls that Allen was nothing in football, but every Sunday he would listen to the radio and chart the pro games, while others were trying to study." Oh well, it doesn't matter any longer. We've got to find a new role model for our children and politicians anyway.

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THAT'S IT, FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS, for this month except to offer this suggestion for a mayoral candidate's self-determination plank. Why not call for an alliance between this big city, its big minority and big oil? On second thought, maybe it wouldn't work. The oil companies would probably tell us that in our case it was all self-service.

*Josiah X. Swampoodle*  
Purveyor of split infinitives  
for more than forty years



# FRANCE'S ECOLOGY POLITICS

JON STEWART

AT 30 years of age, Brice Lalonde, slight of build, shy, nervous, is as unlikely a candidate as one might imagine for the enfant terrible of French politics he has become.

Lalonde is the acknowledged ideologue of what rapidly has become a massive and powerful environmental movement here, now regarded as a key element in next month's critical legislative elections. The ecologists, most polls suggest, may yet tip the scales in the ever-shifting balance of power between the now fractured Communist-Socialist alliance and President Giscard d'Estaing's fragile center-Gaullist coalition.

Who will be hurt most by the ecological vote is a subject of tireless commentary in the press and in the cafes, where politics remains the favorite national participatory sport.

For Lalonde the question is academic. "In last spring's municipal elections we received almost equal support from the left and the right. Some people think we will take more votes from the left. But that's not important. Our support comes from the people who are tired of the traditional political parties. They are disgusted with the status quo, with politics. And as time goes on, we are becoming the majority."

Lalonde, seated at a makeshift table in a half-remodeled suite of offices on the Left Bank, nervously chain-smokes as he vainly attempts to repudiate his own popularity and power. *Les Amis de la Terre*, the environmental organization which he jointly heads with Alain Herve, is small and will stay small, he says. "We don't want to get big. We will not become an institution. We don't have any grand schemes for what society should become. We have certain targets, some specific objectives, like stopping nuclear power."

Lalonde believes that the ecologists, particularly the anti-nuclear forces, have already set an example for an array of other small groups, who together share a kindred "radicalism" that is neither left nor right.

Allied with feminists, pacifists, civil rights groups and advocates of limited growth, of worker management of industry and of regionalism, Lalonde foresees the development of what he insists is a non-political party.

The motivating spirit appears to be the same as that which has given popularity to France's "new philosophers," a group of young intellectuals who came up through the student uprisings of 1968 and later developed a critique of the left that virtually equates Marxism with bureaucratic authoritarianism.

The current Lalonde has tapped is one of anti-government: individualism, independence and self-government. Such, he claims, "is the political direction of the atmosphere — direction without directives or directors; the relative absence of 'lines,' of ideologies."

"These movements will perish when they become institutions," he says.

Despite Lalonde's obsessive refusal to take up the reins of political power, the "non-political" movement he helps nurture has already had significant political consequences. The "green" candidates captured roughly 10 percent of the vote in the last spring's municipal elections, where they ran candidates, and some recent polls suggest they could take as much as 30 percent in the March elections.

In addition, the major parties of both left and right have been scrambling, without much success, to appeal to the ecologists. President Giscard is photographed hiking through the woods; Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist mayor of Paris, has announced some limited growth decisions; the CDS has proclaimed its concern for "the quality

of life;" and the Socialists have called for a national referendum on both nuclear power and the *force de frappe*, the nation's nuclear weapons arsenal.

In fact, only the Communists have failed to claim a seat on the bandwagon, proclaiming, in the words of one party official, that "the ecologists want to take us all back to the days of the sailing ships and the oil lamp."

The support for ecological issues, decentralization, limited growth and greater self-government in all parties clearly offers Lalonde and his followers the power of electoral blackmail. Following the primary vote, ecology candidates holding the decisive margin could simply step down and bargain their votes to whichever major party candidate promised the greatest support for environmental issues.

But Lalonde claims the "green" candidates will not step down to barter with the politicians, even if that promised a partial victory. "We can't compromise in the way of traditional politics because then we would only become part of the political class, which we oppose."

In a recent issue of *Le Sauvage*, the environmental journal he edits with Herve, Lalonde editorialized that in the political "elsewhere" inhabited by the ecologists and their allies, "it is possible to see a renaissance of morals" in the conformity of talk and action. In simpler terms, that means "no compromising."

And in fact, compromise on the central environmental issue — *le nucleaire* — would be difficult, for it has come to symbolize, rightly or wrongly, a whole array of issues. Huge nuclear power stations, it is argued, contribute even more to the relentless centralization of bureaucratic authority. Thus, they represent just the opposite tendency to that of "autogestation," the principle of regional autonomy, self-governing industry and the cutting back of state power which is so close to the hearts of many voters, especially the left.

The Socialist-Communist alliance, even if it is able to repair the disastrous rupture of this summer, is particularly vulnerable on the issue of nuclear power, which both parties have decided to support. For the left voters, many of whom fell into the socialist camp only out of dislike for the apathy and cynicism of Giscard's center, the issue of "autogestation" is central, and nuclear power is symbolic.

Lalonde takes obvious relish from the disarray his non-politics has sown in the political camps of both sides. It all goes to strengthen his faith in his own vision, he says, of a "new society growing up outside the productivist, virile society. . . There is a space to be filled in France," says Lalonde in his quiet manner. "It is the radical space."

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## PUBLIC SERVICE NOTICE

# MCLEAN GARDENS NEWS

## MCLEAN GARDENS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

The time has come for all of us to begin thinking about who we want to represent us in this city come next year. That may seem a long way off, but already the politicians are out in force, choosing up sides. Prudence might suggest that most of us sit it out on the sidelines for the time being. Wait and see what the known candidates do to each other. And wait to see what, if any, unknown candidates emerge.

But we think there are a number of important issues that can't wait. They should be put up front now, for all the candidates to see. We in McLean Gardens feel that many of the problems contributing to our own continuing uncertainty—whether we stay or are forced out for development—are city-wide. They are also, we are sorry to say, problems of long standing. Here's what we are talking about:

**ADEQUATE HOUSING.** There are too many tenants, and too few vacancies for rent control to come to an end. But the artificially low rents, and the landlords' opposition-at-any-cost attitude—even by decreasing the rental housing stock—urgently require that a solution be found. The vacancy rate in Washington must rise substantially before tenants will find relief without the city's interference through controls.

What has the Mayor done? What do the candidates promise? Unboard the city-owned houses. That's a small step. Build low-moderate stock with government subsidies. Perhaps, but low-moderate units will naturally come from older buildings if new ones, at any income level, are built. Can the candidates promise this sufficient priority that enough units—of whatever kind—will be built in the next four years?

**DECENT HOUSING.** Every year the number of housing inspectors diminishes. At night, if major problems arise due to landlord negligence, the tenant is helpless because inspectors can no longer be called. When a premise is inspected, many violations go uncited. The housing code becomes meaningless. Similarly, the maintenance provisions of the Rent Control Law are rendered worthless.

**THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.** In 1974—four years ago—the Home Rule Act called for the establishment of a Comprehensive Plan for Washington. To date, not one single element of the Plan has been adopted by the city. The Mayor is responsible; what does he have to say for the lack of results?

We have said countless times that planning must precede development. Our friends in Upper Northeast, Capitol Hill, Dupont Circle, Friendship Heights, Georgetown, and elsewhere have said it too. Over and over. But there is no planning. Instead, the Mayor's Planning Office pursues such projects as re-writing the regulations for commercial zones, and trying to get a convention center.

**WARD III DEVELOPMENT.** Being that McLean Gardens is where it is, we are particularly concerned about the development pressures all along the Wisconsin Avenue corridor. Much of this is at the expense of other parts of the city, where the development is really needed. The problem is one of priorities. The city seems to want the development here and not elsewhere; it seems to want to destroy healthy neighborhoods and over-develop already developed commercial zones.

The Mayor, through his Planning Office, has always had a lot of rhetoric on the subject. In the end, the same old patterns continue. We'd like to know why the Mayor has turned his back on the controversy surrounding the former Apex Theater site in Spring Valley. And why does development in Friendship Heights and the Georgetown Waterfront move onward? However, it will not be enough for candidates to say that there should be no more proposals. Until existing zoning is decreased, there will be more, because the Ward is overzoned.

**RESPONSIVENESS.** We'd like to point out that in the last couple of years most of our city-wide officials, Mayor, Council, and Congress, have stayed in their offices and not bothered to come out, at least to our part of town, to see and be seen. How can these representatives be truly responsive? Why should we support their campaign efforts when it's a safe bet they won't be seen after November?



# ACTION NOTES

TELL THEM YOU SAW IT IN THE GAZETTE

IF YOU'RE WONDERING who has a bill in Congress for an end to no-deposit containers, the person you're looking for is Rep. James M. Jeffords and his bill is HR 936. It would require a five cent deposit on each beverage container sold. Passage of such a bill would, it is estimated, reduce municipal collection and disposal costs by about \$200 million a year, conserve energy resources and reduce little about 20%. According to Hilda Mason, councilwoman on the DC Council, "the amount of energy expended nationwide in supplying throwaway cans and bottles for beer and soft drinks would supply all of the electrical needs for Pittsburgh, Boston, Washington and San Francisco for one year."

FUNDRAISING IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST is the name of a new publication from Public Citizen. Covers everything from marathons to direct mail. \$4.50 from Public Citizen, Box 19404, DC 20036.

THE CENTER FOR NATIONAL SECURITY STUDIES (122 Maryland Ave. NE, DC 20002) has released an evaluation of the Carter Administration's performance in the area of intelligence agency reform and what can be expected in the future. It was prepared under the direction of Morton Halperin, director of the center, who says, "The Carter Administration, like those before it, wants to preserve things largely as they are, and keep the intelligence bureaucracy happy."

A chart listing food additives (good and not so bad) is available from the folks at the Center for Science in the Public Interest. It will look good on your refrigerator door (unless you have a narrow refrigerator, in which case you could put in the side). The "Chem-



SOME OF THE PEOPLE AT THE PUBLIC RESOURCE CENTER: Standing from left: Frank Smith, Grace Osborne, James Ridgeway. Seated from left: Carolyn Projansky, Charlotte Bunch, Arthur Waskow and Barbara Bick. See next page for story on PRC. (Leonard Cohen photo)

ical Cuisine" post was developed by Michael Jacobson. On the poster, safe additives are printed in green, questionable ones in yellow and dangerous ones in blue. You can get a copy by sending \$1.75 to the Center for Science in the Public Interest, PO Box 3099, DC 20010.

LIBERATION NEWS SERVICE is looking for staff members to work in its graphics department. Some experience necessary but LNS will train. Contact LNS, 17 W. 17th St., NYC NY 10011 (212-989-3555).

THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION has asked for legislation setting up guidelines for wiretaps that the ACLU says are dangerously vague. Says ACLU director J. F. Shattuck: the bill is "seriously flawed because it permits the government to target persons for electronic surveillance without probable cause — or even a reasonable suspicion — to believe they are engaged in a crime. . . . THE ACLU also is concerned about a proposal circulating in the Justice Department which would force those bringing frivolous or bad faith suits against the government to pay the government's legal fees. The proposal would leave it up to the judge to decide, but as the ACLU's legislative counsel Pamela Horowitz points out: "It is precisely the kind of thing we would hate to see in the hands of the courts. It lends itself to the view that a loss on the merits equals frivolity." A number of activist organizations are deeply worried that the plan would restrict the opportunity to press public interest suits.



NPC staff John Fitzgerald, Joe Raible and Bob Chlopak

A NATIONAL OFFICE for Public Interest Research Groups has been established in DC at 1329 E St. NW (#1127) DC 20004 (202-347-3811). National PIRG is looking for 10-15 interns to work next summer; preference will be given to students from schools with active PIRGS.



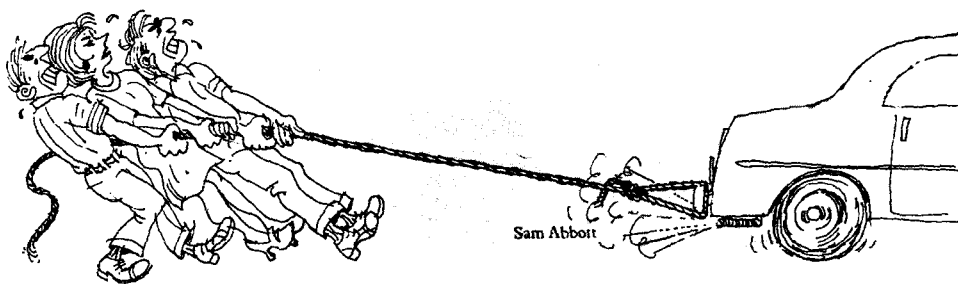
Tom Chalkley  
Environmental Action

MAY 3 is Sun Day. Solar fairs, conferences, teach-ins and other events are being planned. A group is planning to celebrate atop Cadillac Mountain in Maine, where the sun first hits the US. There will be a sunrise concert at the United Nations, a tour of solar homes in Martinsburg, W. Va., a huge community greenhouse in Chicago, a traveling slide show in the mid-west, and one person has suggested a coast-to-coast clothes line be set up.

Sun Day has set up a Washington office to coordinate and publicize activities. You can get in touch with them by writing Sun Day, Suite 1100, 1028 Conn. Ave. NW, DC 20036. The number is 202-466-6880.



A WRITE-IN CAMPAIGN to government officials urging a legal alternative for taxpayers morally opposed to war has been launched by the World Peace Tax Fund. The proposed bill would provide that the portion of taxes of conscientious objectors that would normally go for military purposes be used instead for peace-related projects. Polls indicate that about 4% of Americans are morally opposed to all military spending. The bill would divert about \$2.3 billion of their income taxes to a world peace tax fund. Preprinted cards to send to governmental officials may be obtained by sending 25¢ for one set, \$1 for ten and \$9.50 for a hundred to the National Council for a World Peace Tax Fund, 2111 Florida Ave. NW, DC 20008.



IT SHOULD HAVE COME OUT YEARS AGO — but anyway it's here now and that's good: a basic handbook on dealing with the car and related transportation problems. Published jointly by the Environmental Action Foundation and the National Wildlife Federation, it's called "The End of the Road: A Citizens Guide to Transportation Problemsolving." Written by veteran activists Mary Ann Wilner and Dave Burwell, the book details how citizens can affect transportation planning in their neighborhood, city or state. For a copy, send \$3.50 to the Environmental Action Foundation, Suite 724, 1346 Conn. Ave. NW, DC 20036.

## THE PUBLIC RESOURCE CENTER

THE PUBLIC RESOURCE CENTER is one of Washington's newest research groups, having been in existence only since last May.

The nine colleagues on staff were all formerly associated with the Institute for Policy Studies. While at IPS they formed the Union of Fellows and Faculty and attempted to bargain collectively, but were unable to get IPS to agree. A settlement was eventually reached, with IPS giving the PRC staff a grant to operate for one year.

Len Rodberg, program director at PRC, said that the center's program calls for four things: "providing for full employment — the right to a job, energy conservation of fossil fuels, environmental protection and community-based (that is controlled and created locally) control of jobs and production of goods and services."

The center staff is particularly concerned with economic justice and cultural diversity.

In a letter to its supporters, the staff describes its work this way: "1) critical analysis and reporting on corporate and governmental exploitation of this country's public resources, 2) the interconnecting (through Seminars, conferences, newsletters and travel) of movements and networks which struggle to create new forms at the local level and 3) development of alternative programs which build on and support the best of progressive local movement toward a new national agenda stressing democracy, equality and ecology."

Since the center's founding most of the staff has been involved with the same kind of research and projects as they were at IPS.

Barbara Bick puts out a newsletter six times a year for the Conference on Alternative State and Local Public Policies. It is published for "a network of populist candidates, community organizers and academics, and lets people at the state and local level who are left of center politically exchange programs and legislation," she said.

Bick, who worked for eight years at IPS before coming to the center, said that in addition to staff projects at PRC, colleagues have their own interests. Her per-

sonal project is researching the role of mother as seen in psychiatric literature.

Bick is interested in the correlation between politics and feminism and points to the "movement by the ultra right in American politics, which has zeroed in on the women's movement, abortion, the Equal Rights Amendment and sexual preference."

Bick said that her job "as part of the PRC cooperative effort is to see that we have a mailing list and put out a certain number of publications." She eventually hopes to organize PRC conferences on cities and new job development, as well as solar energy and housing.

Len Rodberg directed IPS's Community Health Alternatives Project and has directed the development of model legislation for "a nationally funded and coordinated health service for the United States that would be controlled at the community level."

He is just finishing work on the bill, which has been introduced by Congressman Ronald Dellums (D-Cal.).

Rodberg, who wrote the bill, sees it as "a model for a lot of social services. There are already a lot of community-based health centers," he pointed out, "but they have to get Health, Education and Welfare grants to operate. We think the dollars should go to communities without the grant process."

In the next few months, according to Rodberg, PRC will be developing an outline for national full employment. "Conservation of energy and full employment are not incompatible," he said, suggesting that jobs could be created in the process of converting from an automobile-based transportation system to mass transit.

PRC colleagues are also planning a conference this fall that will deal with "new ways in which public employees and services can serve communities," Rodberg said. The conference will bring together public employees, government officials and community leaders.

Another center colleague, Arthur Waskow, is "examining the relationship of religious change to political change" and how Christians

and Jews have different political outlooks.

He has also started a project on the changing Jewish institutions — the synagogue system, social services and fundraising — and how effective they are in meeting the needs of the Jewish community. "I'm also looking at the emergence in the last ten years of more fluid, participatory grass roots groups," he said.

PRC also sponsors a Washington Roundtable every other week. Past discussions have focused on labor law reform, organizing women office workers, the Bakke case and the Youngstown, Ohio crisis. Steel plants in that city are closing down, leaving an estimated 10,000 workers unemployed.

Besides Rodberg, Bick and Waskow there are six other colleagues, Robb Burlage is a political economist, planner, and organizer of the Washington Labor Roundtable. Charlotte Bunch is a feminist theorist and teacher who edits Quest, the feminist magazine. Frank Smith works on urban food and housing programs and James Ridgeway edits The Elements, a monthly journal analyzing corporate control over energy, food and natural resources. Ridgeway also writes for The Village Voice. Bettina Conner is managing editor of The Elements and writes on energy and agriculture issues and Cynthia Washington works as a political economist and with civil rights and women's groups.

In addition to the IPS grant, PRC is funded by foundations, grants and contracts from state and local governments, and memberships.

PRC membership is open to anyone interested in the organization's activities and publications. Since it is non-profit, all contributions are tax-deductible.

Membership costs \$30, or \$10 for students and people on fixed incomes. Members receive a subscription to The Elements, special reports and studies, and Public Resource, a periodic letter reporting on staff activities.

For more information on PRC, contact the Center at 1747 Connecticut Avenue, NW or call 202-483-7040.

— BLAIR GATELY



TONIGHT she's wearing a curly Afro wig that rises nearly a foot above her forehead. She has on a leather coat with fur lapels, and a red shirt underneath. She's short and of medium build, small-breasted, and looks to be in her late twenties. Sometimes her eyes close about three-quarters of the way, so that she seems to be seething angry. But she isn't: her street personality is warm and bubbly. She's a cute little whore.

Here she'll be called Tammy (short for Tamar, the Biblical widow who so wanted a child that she tricked her father-in-law, Judah, into sleeping with her, by posing as a harlot).

"When I first started whoring," Tammy says, "my mother didn't like it. I would go home and she would wash the bathtub and toilet because she said I wasn't clean. But now she has accepted it." So much so that Tammy's two children, from her marriage, stay with her mother. Every two days Tammy visits her children, she says. And though Tammy made sure she spent Christmas and Easter with her children, she likes Mother's Day more than Easter: "I give presents to my kids then," she says.

Originally from Ohio, Tammy lived in Florida when she was married, and has lived in DC for the last eight years. She doesn't want to marry again for a long time. "My husband, he was running around. I wanted

to make the marriage work, and he didn't, so I left him. I'm a one-man woman. I do have a boy friend, but because of what I went through in my marriage I don't want to live with a man." Despite Tammy's own feelings about marriage, she asserts that prostitutes become good wives and mothers — because they have learned to listen when men talk about their problems.

## FLESH STREET: Conversation with a prostitute

RUSTY ROSS

"I'm not going to do this much longer. I just been doing it to get what I want." To save money to go to school. Currently it's modeling school, and in the future she hopes it will be school for

fashion design. (Even now Tammy is designing dresses — or so she says: the police warn you not to believe what the whores say: "They'll keep tricking, no matter what they say, as long as their pimp wants them to.") Tammy's outfits include no hot-pants, no gold sequined jump suits, no low low necked dresses. Instead, she wears handsome, conservatively-cut dresses, with muted and harmonizing colors. Maybe Tammy really does design her own dresses? Who knows.

Tammy walks in the 14th Street-K Street-Vermont Avenue triangle, rain or shine, cold weather or warm, and has done so for three years. She works from six pm to two or three am, at least five nights a week. She is cheery and effervescent with all manner of men; an all-American girl, high school cheerleader, a great gal. But she admits: "You have to learn a lot of lines."

Though Tammy doesn't go to church, she believes in God and says she prays: "You don't have to go to church to be a Christian." In addition, she takes vitamins, because "you have to keep yourself up." When we talk she refuses coffee, saying "I'm already awake tonight." She doesn't smoke, drink, smoke reefers, sniff cocaine, shoot hard drugs. "People will want you to do that stuff," she says. "I only watch

## flotsam & jetsam

THE father was trying to explain to his son why he shouldn't button the bottom button of his new man's style suit.

"But what's it there for, if it's not meant to be buttoned?" The nine-year-old logic smashed over the net.

"Well it's, er, decoration. Look at your lapels. They don't do anything either. They just look nice."

"Yeah, but the coat would look funny without these." The nine year old fingered his lapels. "This button just hangs out here. It looks stupid."

"It's the way people do it. But leave it buttoned if you want." Some ten or eleven year old dandy would set him straight soon enough.

The father wondered why he had even bothered. He didn't really care. No one had ever told him why that third button was there. The only reason he could figure out was that maybe it was there for the purpose he had discovered long ago: to move it up a notch or two when the first or second button popped and you were too lazy to find a match. He had gone all year with one button on his best blue suit and no one had said anything — to his face. Maybe it didn't matter. But people said it did.

People say a lot of things about clothes. And with them. The other day, with the snow on the ground, I watched a bedizened, agitated gentleman hailing a cab. He had, it appeared, just stepped out of Charles I; the hair spray was holding in the January wind; the expensive leather jacket and the long leather boots were so spotless I half expected to see the white plastic anti-theft clip from some Georgetown salon still tugging at them. A cab stopped, he rushed in and gave directions, and as he did so he gracefully swung into the taxi his cargo, a glazed bag from E.F. Sly. Was he returning something? Going back for more? Or off to some new place to find something that would look even more elegant in the winter slush? I probably do him wrong; maybe he was only late for work, but I was certain at the moment that his clothes and baggage betrayed his mission in life:

the acquisition of apparel. He was the man described by Carlyle "whose trade, of fice, and existence consists in the wearing of clothes."

I say it with a bit of envy, for if the truth be told, I wouldn't mind being considered well-dressed. I would love to be elegant if there were not other things I loved more which have a peculiar way of interfering with my efforts to put my best side towards the world. As far back as college, a roommate had me pegged: "You're the only man I know who could make an English tailored suit look as though it came from Robert Hall's."

He knew of which he spoke. My father, who had attended Oxford, retained not only his old school ties but his old school clothes. He bought his suits from a tailor on Sackville Row — Jones, Chalk & Dawson. This was not as extravagant an enterprise as it may seem; my father wore his suits with a loyalty one normally devotes only to one's spouse or your grandfather's watch. The orders went to Sackville Row infrequently but consistently.

When I became of age he tried to hand down the tradition. It didn't work. Shortly after he announced he was presenting me with a genuine English tailored suit, a set of instructions arrived from JC&D. My roommates and I attempted to follow the instructions but we were handicapped by not having a math major amongst us, beer, the lack of a tape measure and other sophomoric liabilities. We decided that a yardstick would do the job nicely. All 240 pounds of me were measured, checked and rechecked by my able assistants and the order sent off.

A few weeks later a letter arrived from England. It read:

Dear Sir: With reference to your esteemed order, we regret to find when going into the measurements you have given, that these do not appear to be quite in order, and we do not feel we could with confidence make up a suit.

We wonder if you would be good enough to have the enclosed form completed, if possible by a local tailor, and return to us at your earliest convenience.

Your further esteemed commands shall have our best and personal attention.

With our compliments, we remain,  
Sir, Yours faithfully,

JONES CHALK & DAWSON LIMITED, D.  
Robinson, Director

P.S. Have you a snapshot of yourself which would help. D.R.

I was measured by a local tailor, as suggested, and in time the suit arrived, a massive device that could withstand the worst cold of Boston or the loss of all of His Majesty's colonies, a magnificent garment for Harold MacMillan no doubt, but on me indistinguishable from that I might have obtained from Robert Hall's. I realized then that if clothes were to make the man, I had had it.

It was not that I was without taste. When my older brother bequeathed his entire set of early fifties bib-width ties ranging from pseudo Picassos to a nude reclining on a red field, I accepted them modestly and hung them in my closet where they remained unworn, favoring instead the 1 3/4" black knit that those of us who grew up in the fading of "Happy Days" knew was now the only right thing to wear, unless you belonged to A Club or A Fraternity. But I was not able, nor am I now, to adjust my life in such a way that there was adequate time to make endless small decisions that separate the exquisite from the rest of us. I will, in a sudden spurt of reform, buy a new suit, a complementary tie and shirt, and then find myself toddling around in shoes that must not be raised on crossed knees less the minimal remaining membrane of the sole spoil the effect.

There was a time when I thought I had solved the problem. Day after day I just wore the same thing. I went through a pink shirt period, a green suit period, a black and blue period. One of the happiest moments of my life came upon reading page 61 of David Ogilvy's "Confessions of an Advertising Man." David Ogilvy was the fellow who invented the eye-patched "Man in the Hathaway Shirt." He designed the ad campaigns for Schweppes, Rolls Royce and Pepperidge Farms. He was an English New Yorker, the ultimate elegant ethnic combination, to which the pipe-smoking cover photo attested. On page 61, this arbiter of excellence declared, "I always use my clients' products. . . My shirts are by Hathaway, my candlesticks by Steuben. My car is a Rolls Royce, and its tank is always full of Super Shell. I have my suits made Sears Roebuck. . ."

I went through a Sears Roebuck suit period.

It wasn't a bad idea. Uniforms remove the doubt that fads and fancies inject into dress. They also identify: you are in the army, an Amtrak attendant, an announcer on "Wide World of Sports," or, in my case, a disciple of Sears chic.

Still, uniforms, largely because of the people who decree them, often intrude



them: you don't have to do what others want you to do."

"Some of the whores out here are trash, both white and black." Even so, she makes it a point to know all of them. She points out a girl walking nearby, and remarks that "she's a hard bitch." Of the whites on the street, many of the young ones are runaways, she explains. Also, according to Tammy, the women in the area she works are 50-50 black and white, and women from both races mix easily with one another (Tammy, who is black, often walks with a friend who is white). There is, though, a difference in the behavior of the johns: "White johns know what they want, and give you money for it," she says. "Blacks bargain, don't want to give you a thing."

It's the same way with pimps, Tammy says, who often don't give anything to their whores. That's why, in her view, only half the whores have pimps. And that's why she doesn't have a pimp.

Or so she says. One night I was talking to another whore, Ruby. Ruby pointed out a prostitute passing by, and said that she was Tammy's wife-in-law (one of the prostitutes controlled by a pimp, and often living with him and his other prostitutes). I protested that Tammy said she was living alone. Sure, Ruby explained, but that's because Tammy's pimp is in jail, and though

Tammy's not living with him now, she still is working for him.

According to psychologists and sociologists, prostitutes are often lesbians. To this Tammy responds that she has known very few who were. But she does partially agree with the experts' contention that prostitutes hate men. "Dag," she says, "sometimes I don't care at all about those tricks." She completely disagrees with the common belief that prostitutes all have VD. The reason is that most of the girls favor rubbers; because a john is usually inside a trick only about ten minutes, the rubber prevents VD germs from infecting the john's penis. "VD," Tammy says, "is spread by high school kids, who don't know any better."

"Sometimes I dread going to work," she says, "and sometimes it's OK. It's like any other job. But I wouldn't recommend this life. Sometime you will go to jail, be raped, robbed, beat up. And sometimes girls disappear." What if her daughter wanted to be a prostitute? "I wouldn't force her not to do it," Tammy says. "I'd explain how it's a hard life, and let her choose for herself."

Yet to her daughter Tammy would also explain that prostitution is not the abomination it is generally thought to be, though she did find it hard to justify when she began. But later she realized, for example,

FORTY PEOPLE in LA ate earthworms in return for two free tickets to the drive-in classic, "The Worm Eaters." Curtis Roe of Bakersfield consumed 32 worms which entitled him not only to the tickets but to a part in the director's new film, "Brain Suckers." PR plans for that one are undetermined at this point.

that "a man might get in trouble by having an affair with his secretary: she might call his wife. But with a whore sex is safe." Besides, Tammy feels, prostitution is just like what happens in society as a whole. "Take the pimp: he's the man a girl loves. When you love a man, you give him things," just as a woman who's not a whore gives her boy friend things. Besides, men who don't go to prostitutes have sex outside of their marriage all the time. "The only difference is that I be paid," Tammy says. "I don't give my pussy away. I sell it."

on good sense as much as Bill Blass. They tend to follow that basic principle: the less useful one's function in society, the less useful one's dress. When I was at Coast Guard Officer Candidate School I wore enlisted blues and whites. With the exception of a few anachronistic elements, such as the thirteen buttons, they were superbly sensible items, designed to be rolled up in the most compact locker, resilient and, above all, extremely comfortable. Even the neckerchief had a purpose — in fact, several: a tourniquet, an emergency piece of line or, in combination with others, a sail for a life raft.

As soon as I graduated from OCS, however, I wore an officer's uniform. The gold would get tarnished (with the enlisted blues you could suck the dirt out of the piping), the pants could not be used for inspection as well as anything functional, and the hat blew off in the wind. It did not surprise me to learn recently that the Navy was giving up on its scheme to put enlisted men in officer-style clothing. You can't do anything useful in an officer's uniform.

Of course, a lot of the time you could get away with wearing one of those warm and comfortable foul weather jackets — the old style with the furry collar and the pale olive material and your ship's name stenciled on the back. I would estimate that roughly ninety-two percent of all personnel leaving the Coast Guard absconded with one of those jackets — from admirals to seamen. Unfortunately, sartorial technology raised its ugly head while I was still on duty. New style jackets arrived, awkward, unpleasant things of a dark, mean green, and we had to turn in the beloved predecessors.

A foul weather jacket, however, was not enough to protect one against a New England February blow. Although by my tour of duty the steel deck had been invented for about a century, the naval services had not yet discovered its frigidity in winter. I bought myself a pair of thermal boots and when I was not chastised for wearing them, I began appearing on the bridge in a one-piece L.L. Bean hunting outfit complete with cartridge belt. The captain, a mustang, tolerated these eccentricities, merely harrassing me for my "bunny suit." The exec did not seem quite so amused by the navigator setting such a bad example for the rest of the crew but then he was an Academy man, trained to think that suffering was good for you.

My own view was that I should at least receive a suggestion award for

having come up with apparel, unlike that worn by my shivering colleagues, that was adequately suited for the task we were assigned. Clothes make the man. Sometimes very cold.

Check the streets this winter. They are filled with people who have decided that since it is impossible to be both fashionable and warm, they will sacrifice the latter virtue for the former.

The same is true in summer. In a city like Washington people dress for the office. We think summer, like polio, has been conquered and still don't believe in winter.

The energy crisis may bring some changes. Last summer a local radio station engaged in a radical campaign: to make it acceptable for everyone to unbutton their shirts by declaring a tieless holiday. They broadcast the names of companies that had agreed to go along with their plan as though they were contributors to the United Way of energy conservation. It was an impressive effort, even more impressive to me was the thought that it was necessary.

But then I suffer under the delusion that I work better when I am comfortable. College students, mechanics, farmers all know that. But when you are a respectable urban office-bound American it's not supposed to be true. A friend who is a partner in a law firm here tells me that he caused a mild stir by arriving at the office one day in his normal conservative suit — and a turtle neck. He deals in international law, his clients live thousands of miles away, but I guess you never know when one might drop in. Can a Washington lawyer be a good Washington lawyer in a turtleneck? The answer here in the better firms seems to be: only on Saturdays. Go to a law firm on a Saturday and you won't find a pin-striped suit in the house. Slacks, sweaters, or even jeans are the style. What happens between Friday night and Saturday morning?

Now if you go down to the local police station you'll find a notice listing variations in the dress code, too. But it's keyed to the climate. In fact, with this directive in hand one can predict the weather for the day merely by looking at the nearest traffic cop. But why the shift in the lawyers' apparel? Undoubtedly it is in part because on Saturdays there is little danger of the arrival of a client — who of course would be wearing a suit and tie to deal properly with the attorney. And so forth.

I wear a suit or tie so seldom that it often provokes comment. This pleases

me, for I see "nice clothes" as a costume, to be worn to a party or event, which is different than working or doing something. I'm one of the few men in my neighborhood who can wear a pinstripe and have it look unique. That's why I bought it. Confused by the choices arrayed before me, my eye drifted towards the grey pin-stripe. For me it was the most daring choice in the store. I'll take it.

But most of the time I want to be comfortable. I can't write in a suit. The words come out pin-striped. I can't stuff news-racks or dig through old records at city hall in a suit. And I don't like to see well-dressed reporters. The decline of American journalism began when journalists stopped looking seedy. Their copy turned polyester and the worse for it.

I would wear jeans and a sweatshirt everyday if I were not such a coward. Barretta would be on my list of the ten best dressed men in America. And I love the pocket stuffers, like Charlie Mason, husband of the local city councilmember, who makes his clothes work for him. His shirt pocket overflows with pens, pencils, time-tables and miscellaneous notes. Charlie is a man of missions, always doing something, and his pockets tell it. Empty pockets, empty mind.

I also admire the advocates of eccentric ornament, like the Gazette cartoonist, John Wiebenson, who sits in his architectural office with wool cap and scarf, a tweed jacket left by the last guest at the Willard Hotel and sneakers that were the last to leave Dunkirk.

To the conventional, John might be considered badly dressed; to those who know him, he is merely the foremost proponent of the Wiebenson look. If Halston stole it, he'd make millions.

But Halston hasn't sent his scouts up Connecticut Avenue, so John and I remain sartorial outcasts. I would submit, however, our sin is not one of taste but daring to wear what we wish, letting our clothes reflect the oddments of our minds rather than fighting or betraying them.

Anyway, since one of the purposes of dress is to attract attention, our way is certainly cheaper. And besides, there's always the chance that someone will look at us and have Jonathan Swift's reaction: "I have always had a sacred veneration for anyone I observe to be a little out of repair in his person, as supposing him either a poet or a philosopher."

So go ahead, kid, button that third button.

— SAM SMITH



## AMERICAN JOURNAL: Hopi prophecies

DAVID ARMSTRONG

*"Do not let them take what is underneath your houses. For by that time, man will have learned to make another man. Seasons will change. And man will go into space on platforms."*

— Richard Kastle on the Hopi prophecies

WHAT may be the biggest news of 1978, and beyond, remains a virtual secret, the property not of the media mavens of the metropolitan centers, but of a little-known Indian people in northeastern Arizona who call themselves the Hopi.

The Hopi — their name means "to be peaceful and have faith in the Great Spirit" — have lived in the same rugged, arid place for centuries. They have never taken up arms against the United States, nor have they ever signed a treaty. They consider themselves unique, and are so considered by other native North American people, who generally accept the Hopi as the spiritual guardians of this continent, the great Turtle Island of Indian tradition.

Today, the Hopi, through their traditional elders, are trying to tell us something. Namely that if we don't end our ways of warfare and ecological suicide, this world will soon self-destruct. Maybe this year. Maybe next. Last year's Western drought and bitter Eastern winter were, they warn, only previews.

Now, predicting the end of the world is not new. Ouija board wizards and folks claiming exclusive visiting rights with Venusian saucer people have been doing it for years. But the Hopi are not publicity seekers, not dilettantes. are inbred, intensely religious people with a detailed checklist for the apocalypse in prophecies that are to psychic dabbling what a lightning bolt is to a 40-watt bulb.

The Hopi prophecies are derived from a cosmology that holds that there have been several worlds before this one, worlds that followed a pattern of growth, decay and destruction brought on by human failures. Each world left a few survivors,

who carried the seeds of civilization with them into the next world.

According to the Hopi worldview, they are the seed-people of this world, and their land, to which they migrated in antiquity, is the center, the spiritual heart, of this part of the planet. The Hopi role, according to tradition, is to protect the integrity of the heartland and to nourish the earth through ritual and right livelihood.

The Hopi further believe that a turning away from this delicate human ecology — both by humanity as a whole and some Hopi themselves — has brought the present world to the edge of destruction. The prophecies are signposts by which to mark this cyclical slippage.

Richard Kastl is a young Osage-Creek Indian from Oklahoma, a friend of the Hopi who often represents them to the media and on speaking tours around the country. Speaking in Eugene, Oregon recently, Kastl explained, "Long before the white man came to this land, it was known that men with white skins would come from the East."

"The prophecy said they would come in a box drawn by animals, and the box would later run by itself. There would be long lines of these boxes, and there would be people living inside them; they would go across the land like snakes. Great roads would then pour across the land like rivers; and man would begin to talk to man through cobwebs in the sky. It was said that one man would be able to see and hear another man over the mountains through a box."

"The Hopi people said that there would be three earth-shaking events that would take place if we started going in the wrong direction," Kastl continued. "The first warning would come when a man bearing the swastika would come to shake the world. And a man from the land of the rising sun would come and shake the world some more." Then would come "a gourd of ashes from the sky that would boil the rivers, and the land for many years to come and bring new sickness."

The leaders of 17 Hopi clans, meeting in 1948, identified the "gourd of ashes" as the atomic bomb. This so concerned them, they decided to make the heretofore secret teachings public. Since then, the Hopi have revealed other signs of impending doom. They see genetic engineering as the fulfillment of the "man making another man" prophecy, while another vision of "two brothers building a ladder to the moon" appears to be the joint US-

Soviet orbiting space station planned for 1979.

The final factor in the prophecies, however, figures to happen not in the skies, but under the earth. This is an assault on the Hopi themselves, on their traditions and land. This assault, led by corporate multinationals and abetted by Washington and Hopi who have given up the old ways, is proceeding apace with devastating results.

Stripmining of Hopi land began in 1967, when the Peabody Coal Co. signed a long-term lease with the elected tribal council. It accelerated in the early Seventies, when Peabody began flaying Black Mesa, a place sacred to the old religion, shipping its coal to the mammoth Four Corners power plant nearby. Now the assault may take a quantum leap, the result of a lease granted to a uranium company and thirteen oil companies for 1.5 million acres of land — nearly half the Hopi holdings — for exploitation of minerals and oil.

The lease was approved in 1976 in an election in which only 229 of the 8,000 Hopi voted in favor. Traditional Hopi don't vote, nor do they recognize the US government-sponsored tribal council as their own. The Hopi will be getting \$5 million if the still-pending deal goes through, but it will be small recompense for the loss of their land and the loss of life they believe the drilling and digging will cause.

Already, the considerable amounts of water taken for the Four Corners plant has lowered the desert water table, endangering the unique system of dry farming the Hopi have perfected. If the land itself is taken, if its heart is gouged out, this world will end, for the Hopi will have failed in their stewardship.

The only matter now at issue among the elders seems to be whether all life will be lost, or only most of it. If we change course right away, they seem to suggest, we can at least avoid the worst. Wrote Dan Katchongva, who died just after completing his book, *A Message for All People*, in 1976: "People everywhere must give the Hopi their most serious consideration. Our prophecies, our teaching and our ceremonial duties must continue, for if Hopi fails, it will trigger the destruction of the world and all mankind."

(For further information, contact Friends of the Hopi, Box 1852, Flagstaff, Arizona 86002.)

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